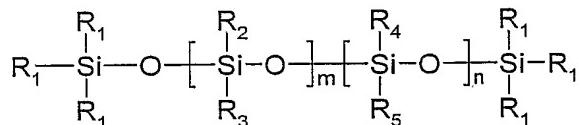


CLAIMS

1. An imaging element comprising a support having thereon, in order, at least one imaging layer, at least one interlayer containing a lubricant which provides scratch-resistance and at least one outermost layer containing a different lubricant which provides abrasion-resistance.

2. An element according to claim 1 wherein the lubricant which provides abrasion-resistance is a silicone-based lubricant.

10 3. An element according to either of the preceding claims wherein the lubricant which provides abrasion-resistance is a siloxane having the formula (I):-



(I)

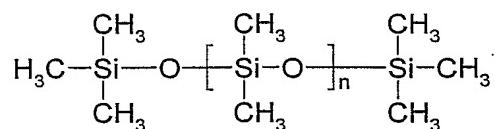
15 wherein each R_1 is independently an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms or an unsubstituted or substituted alkoxy group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, R_2 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 each represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, arylalkyl, alkoxy aryloxyalkyl, glycidyloxyalkyl group or aryl group, and n and m each represents a positive integer of from 0 to 2,500, with the proviso that both m and n cannot be 0.

20 4. An element according to claim 3 wherein in formula (I), each R_1 is the same and is an unsubstituted alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms or an alkoxy group having either 1 or 2 carbon atoms.

25 5. An element according to either of claims 3 and 4 wherein R_2 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 each represents an unsubstituted alkyl group.

6. An element according to any one of claims 3 to 5 wherein m is 0 and n is an integer from 2-500.

7. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein
5 the lubricant which provides abrasion-resistance has a viscosity of 350 centistokes and an average molecular weight of 13,700 and has the formula:-



wherein n is an average of 183.

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8. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the lubricant which provides abrasion-resistance is present in a concentration of from about 35 to about 65 mg/m².

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9. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the lubricant providing scratch-resistance is a higher fatty acid or a derivative thereof or a higher alcohol or a derivative thereof.

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10. An element according to claim 9 wherein the lubricant is a metal salt of a higher fatty acid, a higher fatty acid ester, a higher fatty acid amide or a polyhydric alcohol ester of a higher fatty acid.

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11. An element according to either of claims 9 and 10 wherein the lubricant is a derivative of a fatty acid selected from the class consisting of palmitic, stearic, oleic, linoleic, linolenic or tauric acids.

12. An element according to claim 11 wherein the lubricant comprises 'Spermalube'.

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13. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the lubricant which provides scratch-resistance is present in a concentration of from about 15 to about 30 mg/m².
- 5 14. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the element is selected from the class consisting of photographic, electrostatographic, photothermographic, electrothermographic, dielectric recording and thermal-dye-transfer imaging elements.
- 10 15. An element according to claim 14 wherein the element is a black-and-white photographic element in which at least one of the imaging layers comprises a radiation-sensitive silver halide emulsion layer.
- 15 16. An element according to claim 15 wherein the silver halide emulsion comprises a silver chlorobromide emulsion.
17. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the element includes a nucleator capable of providing high contrast development in a latent-image forming layer.
- 20 18. An element according to anyone of the preceding claims which includes a booster.
- 25 19. A method for processing an imaging element according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises developing the element with an alkaline developing solution.